

PLANNING etc (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006 BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2007

DECLARATION OF BALLOT RESULT TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF A BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT IN EDINBURGH'S OLD TOWN

This is the result of the Ballot to create a Business Improvement District under the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006, Business Improvement Districts (Scotland) Regulations 2007 in **Edinburgh's Old Town**. The Ballot was held by post with polls closing at 5pm on Thursday 28 November 2019.

The electorate consisted of:	444 persons
Representing	676 relevant properties
The total of persons who cast a vote:	161
Giving a turnout of	36%

The votes cast were as follows

YES – total number of votes cast in favour of the question asked in the ballot	137
NO – total number of votes cast against the question asked in the ballot	145

There were **18** papers rejected for the following reasons:

Want of Official Mark	0
Unsigned	1
Unmarked	17
Void for uncertainty	0

The rateable values of the relevant properties in respect of which votes were cast are as follows:

Aggregate of the rateable values of the relevant properties in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted for the BID proposals (A)	£14,501,250
Aggregate of the rateable values of the relevant properties in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted against the BID proposals (B)	£12,296,575

The aggregate of the rateable values of all lands and heritages in respect of which a person is entitled to vote in the ballot is **£56,817,475**.

On the basis of these papers:

1. The number of votes cast **against** the BID proposals **exceeds** the number of votes cast in favour of those proposals;
2. The aggregate of the rateable values of the relevant properties in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted for the BID proposals (A) **exceeds** the aggregate of the rateable values of the relevant properties in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted against the BID proposals (B);
3. At least 25% of the **persons** entitled to vote in the ballot (111 out of 444) **have** done so; and
4. The aggregate of the rateable values of relevant properties in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted for the BID proposals (A) **plus** the aggregate of the rateable values of the relevant properties in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted against the BID proposals (B) **is** equal to at least **25%** of the aggregate of the rateable values of all relevant properties in respect of which a person is entitled to vote in the ballot. (£14,204,368 of £56,817,475).

Elections

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*(These four conditions ensure that for a ballot to be successful there must be a minimum of 25% “turn out” by number of eligible persons and by combined rateable value **AND**, of those that vote, a majority of votes and a majority of rateable value must be in favour of the BID proposals.)*

As these four conditions **have not** been met I therefore declare that, on the basis of a ballot held for the purposes of section 38(1) of the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006, under the Business Improvement Districts (Scotland) Regulations 2007, the BID proposals for the area listed on the Ballot Paper, “Edinburgh’s Old Town”, **have not** been approved.

Chris Highcock
Depute Returning Officer
5 December 2019